

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please rewrite the paragraph at page 1, lines 3-5, to read as follows:

**-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The invention relates to a device and a method for handling a sample, in particular for treating, examining or inserting or extracting a cryosample ~~in accordance with the generic terms of Claims 1 and 23.~~ --.

Please add on page 2, between lines 3 and 4, the following heading:

**-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --**

Please delete the paragraph at page 2, line 8 in its entirety.

Please add on page 9, between lines 12 and 13, the following heading:

**-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS --**

Please add on page 10, between lines 9 and 10, the following heading:

**-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --**